

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Albania/Yugoslavia	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Albanian Defense Positions along the Albanian/Yugoslav Border North of Shkoder	DATE DISTR.	14 JUN 1963
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DATE OF INFO.	
PLACE & DATE ACQ.	

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1. There are about 35 reinforced concrete blockhouses, reportedly designed to house one antitank gun each, along the left bank of the Perron, 1 Thate River, for a distance of about 4 km east and about 2 km west of the bridge over the river at Pjetroschan (N 42.14/E 19.27); 20 are east of the bridge and the other 15, west of it. From a distance they look like concrete cubes, with reinforced concrete roofs about 2 meters long and 1.5 meters wide. They jutt out about 80 cm from the terrain and have two openings, one on the north side and the other on the south side, each about 75 x 50 cm. No entrance was observed. The structures are located at a height of about 30 meters above the river bed. When they were last viewed (in September 1962) they looked as though they would be completed in a week. They had not yet been covered with earth, etc., but only with a layer of tar. These structures were built during August 1962 by artillery reservists living in the area who were called up to do the work and who were issued clothing at the mobilization depot in Koplik (N 42.13/E 19.26).
2. In May 1962, maintenance and repair work was undertaken on unidentified existing fortifications in the vicinity of Reci (sic; possible Rec i Poshtem - N 42.13/E 19.22; and Bardhaj (N 42.15/E 19.33). Presumably

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this pertained to infantry entrenchments, because the work was done by infantry reservists, whereas the work at Pjetroshan had been done by artillery reservists.

3. The Koplik mobilization depot is located in a former tobacco warehouse among the warehouses assigned to the Koplik agricultural cooperative, about 500 meters east of the village on the south side of the road to Koplik i Siperm (N 42.14/E 19.28). Clothing, field equipment, individual arms and ammunition were stored at the depot. Under a shelter were parked 26 artillery pieces (of unknown size), including 22 AT guns and 4 AA guns. The guns were brought to the warehouse in 1961 at the time that the Soviets left Albania; they were seen travelling along the road. In September 1962, the commander of the depot was an unidentified Captain First Class. The installation is subordinate to an unidentified brigade in Shkoder. Guard duties are carried out by military personnel.

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